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## Population and Migration

## NEW BOOKS

AUBERTIN, F. *La natalité*. (Paris: G. Crès. 1922. 9 fr.)

HOURLICH, I. A. *Immigration and labor: the economic aspects of European immigration to the United States*. (New York: Huebsch. 1922. Pp. xxxii, 574.)

JOHNSON, J. E., compiler. *Selected articles on the negro problem*. (New York: H. W. Wilson Co. 1921. Pp. xxxv, 370. \$2.25.)

MOSSELL, S. T. *The standard of living among one hundred negro migrant families in Philadelphia*. (Philadelphia: Am. Academy of Social and Political Science. 1921. Pp. 50.)

A thesis presented to the faculty of the Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Reprinted from *The Annals*, vol. XCVIII, Nov., 1921.

SAVORGNIAN, F. *Demografia di guerra e altri saggi*. (Bologna: Nicola Zanichelli. 1921. Pp. 219. 12 l.)

*Population and its distribution; compiled from the figures of 1920 United States census; including distribution of retail and wholesale dealers*. Third edition. (New York: J. Walter Thompson Co., 244 Madison Ave. 1921. Pp. x, 335. \$5.)

## Social Problems and Reforms

*What is Social Case Work? An Introductory Description*. By MARY E. RICHMOND. (New York: Russell Sage Foundation. 1922. Pp. 268. \$1.00.)

A book which analyzes social case work and reveals more of the method is always welcome. In spite of the parts that are confusing and obscure this book has in it so much that is fine, useful, and constructive that it represents a real contribution to social work literature. The earlier chapters present six different types of problems and are valuable both for teaching purposes and for the wholesome philosophy which they present. The main theme, however, is the meaning of social case work. After laboring somewhat heavily on the word personality the author concludes that "social case work consists of those processes which develop personality through adjustments consciously effected, individual by individual, between men and their social environment." The development of personality is made the essential characteristic of case work. The reader is greatly astonished to discover on a later page that "social case work includes those social and useful adjustments which are made with and for individuals, whether or not they lead directly to the development of personality." In following the thought of the book the reader must realize that much water has flowed by in recent years but this discussion makes one wish

that the author had repeated her previous definition of case work presented in 1915 instead of this new definition so unceremoniously deprived of its supporting pillars. The definition apparently substitutes a part for the whole; it is a sort of sociological synecdoche, for no doubt the development of personality is an important function of social case work.

The field of social case work is carefully circumscribed by the author and due recognition is given to the importance of other forms of social work. In fact so much caution is exercised, so often is the term "mass action" used and the pretensions of social case work repressed, that a much better understanding of each other by the various groups of social workers will inevitably follow. The value of social case work, both to group work and to social research, might have been further stressed.

The reader realizes that a new day has dawned when he glimpses such statements as, "it is perilously easy for case workers to assume a rather selfish autocratic rôle." "A man can become so weakened by unfavorable conditions that it is impossible for him to want progressively." "What man does for himself counts for more toward his permanent well-being than the things that are done for him." "The most successful social work policies are.....(also) the fullest possible participation of the client in all plans."

The author wisely says that an intelligent person with tact and good will might perform any one of a long list of tasks but only a trained person would succeed with a combination of these services—a statement which gives vitality to the demand for trained workers. The challenge to the student of heredity to make an equally thorough study of the mental and social life of man is most pertinent. The latter part of the book deals with several concrete forms of social case work, such as those relating to the home, the school, the workshop, the hospital and the court. There is also an appreciation of the possibilities of government as a case work agency.

G. B. MANGOLD.

#### NEW BOOKS

BOYLE, J. E. *Rural problems in the United States*. The national social science series. (Chicago: McClurg. 1921. Pp. 142. \$1.)

Professor Boyle emphasizes in this book the point of view that a community can know itself and can make certain very definite choices which will affect its well-being. He believes that what the farmer really needs is definite and constructive thinking and inspiration that leads to self-help and that it is an illusion that legislation can cure all the economic and social ills of the farmer. In various chapters are discussed such questions as the food-supply, rural conditions and rural needs, the rural home, the rural school, the country church, the country store, the country bank, the country newspaper, and farm and home